

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: T. Yamaguchi et al.

: Art Unit: 2613

Serial No.: 09/051,547

: Examiner: A. Wong

Filed: April 7, 1998

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FOR: PICTURE AND SOUND DECODING
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) 8-289290
- 2) 5-122681
- 3) 9-23422

References 1) to 3) include English language abstracts.

References 1) to 3) were cited in a Notice of Reasons For Rejection by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified

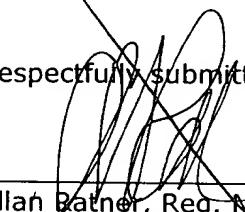
patent application. A copy of this Notice of Reasons for Rejection is transmitted herewith. Also enclosed is an English translation of the Notice of Reasons for Rejection. MPEP 609 IIIA(3), second paragraph.

More than three months have elapsed since the filing of the above-referenced application and/or a first (non-Final) Official Action has been received. No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. Accordingly, as more specifically indicated below, a statement as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) is provided herewith.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information disclosed in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

AR/dlm

Enclosures:

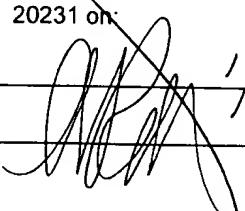
PTO Form 1449
Copy of (3) References
Notice of Reasons for Rejection

Dated: January 15, 2003

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

 1/15/03